

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Fig. 3 has been amended to identify the direct route 37 of the projection 38. Entry of the enclosed drawings is respectfully requested.

Attachment: Replacement Drawing Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 and 19-42 are pending. Claim 18 was previously canceled. In the present amendment, Claims 30, 36, and 42 are canceled and Claim 2 is amended, thereby leaving Claims 1, 3-17, 19-29, 31-35, and 37-41 unchanged. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 14-17 and the Examiner's indication that Claims 8-13 include allowable subject matter.

Drawing Objections

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) for failing to show each and every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner argues that "the movement of the protrusion along the slot from the second end toward the first end is substantially unimpeded as stated in claim 2 [and] must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims(s)." Without prejudice, Applicants have amended Fig. 3 of the present application to more clearly identify the direct route 37 of the projection, rendering this objection moot. Applicants have also amended the specification to include reference number 37. Applicants note that the direct route 37 of the projection is described in the paragraph beginning on line 26 of page 3 of the specification. Accordingly, no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirements that "the hanger includes a protrusion movable along the slot,... movement of the protrusion along the slot from the second end toward the first end is substantially unimpeded, and... during movement of the protrusion along the slot from the first end toward the second end, the protrusion is selectively movable along the slot branches... to impede movement of the protrusion along the slot toward the first end" as recited in Claim 2.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the following section of the specification:

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg

48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18. The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. *Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.*

Referring to FIG. 4, *upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54.* Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. *However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38.* Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Page 3, line 26-page 4, line 20 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claim 2 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claim 2 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

The Examiner also objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirements that “the slot includes an opened end, a first closed end, and a second closed end, and... the locking path extends between the first closed end and the second closed end” as recited in Claims 26 and 38.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Still referring to FIG. 2, the slot 18 includes a first end 24 that is closed and a second end 26 that opens into a receiving area 28. Additionally, a first and

second slot branch 30 and 32, respectively, diverge from the slot 18 and terminate in first and second dead ends 34 and 36, respectively.

Referring to FIG. 4, upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54. Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. *However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38.* Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Page 3, line 8-page 4, line 20 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claims 26 and 28 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claim 26 and 28 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

The Examiner objected to specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirements that “the exit path extends between the first closed end and the opened end, and... the entry path extends between the opened end and the first closed end” as recited in Claims 27 and 39.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Still referring to FIG. 2, *the slot 18 includes a first end 24 that is closed and a second end 26 that opens into a receiving area 28. Additionally, a first and second slot branch 30 and 32, respectively, diverge from the slot 18 and terminate in first and second dead ends 34 and 36, respectively.*

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. *The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg 48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18.* The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.

Referring to FIG. 4, *upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54. Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall.* However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38. Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Page 3, line 8-page 4, line 20 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claims 27 and 39 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claims 27 and 39 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

The Examiner also objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirement that “the exit path includes at least one change of direction along the nonlinear slot” as recited in Claims 28, 34, and 40.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Still referring to FIG. 2, the slot 18 includes a first end 24 that is closed and a second end 26 that opens into a receiving area 28. Additionally, a first and second slot branch 30 and 32, respectively, diverge from the slot 18 and terminate in first and second dead ends 34 and 36, respectively.

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg 48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18. The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.

Referring to FIG. 4, upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54. Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38. Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Page 3, line 8-page 4, line 20 (emphasis added). Applicants also direct the Examiner's attention to Fig. 4 of the applications. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claims 28, 34, and 40 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claims 28, 34, and 40 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

In addition, the Examiner objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirement that “at least a portion of the locking path defines an acute angle with respect to at least a portion of the exit path” as recited in Claim 30, 36, and 42. Without prejudice, Applicants have canceled Claim 30, 36, and 42 of the present application, rendering this objection moot. Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirement that “the hanger is engageable with a projection extending outwardly from a wall, and... the slot defines an entry path for the projection, an exit path for the projection, and at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path” as recited in Claims 30 and 37. Without prejudice, Applicants have canceled Claim 30 of the present application, rendering this objection moot.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg 48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18. The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.

Referring to FIG. 4, upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54. Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38.

Page 3, line 26-page 4, line 9 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claim 37 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the

description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claim 37 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

The Examiner also objected to the specification of the present application for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the requirement that “the slot includes a third, closed end, and... the locking path extends between the first, closed end and the third, closed end” as recited in Claim 31. Applicants note that this language is included in Claim 32 and not Claim 31.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Still referring to FIG. 2, the slot 18 includes a first end 24 that is closed and a second end 26 that opens into a receiving area 28. Additionally, a first and second slot branch 30 and 32, respectively, diverge from the slot 18 and terminate in first and second dead ends 34 and 36, respectively.

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg 48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18. The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.

Referring to FIG. 4, upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54. Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. *However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38.* Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot

branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Page 3, line 8-page 4, line 20 (emphasis added). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claim 32 finds clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claim 32 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(d)(1).

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 132(a)

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 132(a) as containing new matter. Specifically, the Examiner argues that the limitation that “the hanger includes a protrusion movable along the slot.. [that] movement of the protrusion along the slot from the second end toward the first end is substantially unimpeded, and... [that] during movement of the protrusion along the slot from the first end toward the second end, the protrusion is selectively movable along the slot branches to impede movement of the protrusion along the slot toward the first end” as recited in Claim 2.

In response, Applicants direct the Examiner’s attention to the following section of the specification:

Still referring to FIG. 2, the slot 18 includes a first end 24 that is closed and a second end 26 that opens into a receiving area 28. Additionally, a first and second slot branch 30 and 32, respectively, diverge from the slot 18 and terminate in first and second dead ends 34 and 36, respectively.

As will be discussed in more detail with respect to FIGS. 6 through 9, the top maze lock hanger 10 and the bottom maze lock hanger 16 engage projections 38 (e.g., nails, screws, etc.; see FIG. 6) that project from a wall or other suitable surface for mounting a device, such as the clock 14. Each projection 38 includes a shaft portion 40 that is narrower than the width of the slot 18 and a head portion 42 that is wider than the width of the slot 18. As will be readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art viewing FIGS. 1 and 2, the head portion 42 of the projection 38 is positioned in the receiving area 28 and the shaft portion 40 of the projection 38 is then slid into the slot 18, so that the head portion 42 is captured in a chamber 43 behind the face 20 of the maze lock hanger 10. Because the slot 18 is narrower than the head portion 42 of the projection 38, the maze lock hanger cannot be pulled off the projection 38 in a direction along the axis of the projection 38. *The way to remove the maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38 is to back the projection 38 out of the slot 18 so that the head portion 42 is again in the receiving area 28 and free from the maze lock hanger 10.*

Referring to FIG. 3, an entry path 44 for the projection 38 into the top maze lock hanger 10 is shown. The projection 38 enters the top maze lock hanger 10 at the receiving area 28, travels up a first leg 46 of the slot 18, up a second leg 48 of the slot 18 and stops at the first end 24 of the slot 18. The first end 24 of the slot 18 rests on the projection 38, thereby mounting the clock 14 to a wall or other substantially vertical surface appropriate for mounting the clock 14. *Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that the entry path 44 is the only direct route 37 the projection 38 may take to the first end 24 of the slot 18.*

Referring to FIG. 4, *upon removal of the clock 14 from a wall, the projection 38 may travel along a removal path 50 or may take one of two dead end paths 52, 54.* Moving the projection 38 through the removal path 50 allows the top maze lock hanger 10 to be removed from the projection and, thus, the clock 14 to be removed from the wall. *However, moving the projection 38 along the first dead end path 52 results in the projection 38 encountering the first dead end 34, preventing the top maze lock hanger 10 from being removed from the projection 38. Similarly, moving the projection 38 through the second dead end path 54 causes the projection 38 to encounter the second dead end 36, also preventing removal of the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38.* Thus, unless a user of the clock 14 has knowledge about the proper path through which the projection 38 should be moved to remove the top maze lock hanger 10 from the projection 38, he or she will likely encounter either the first or second dead end 34 or 36 and be prevented from removing the clock 14 from the wall. It is worth noting that FIGS. 3 and 4 illustrate the top maze lock hanger 10 from the back face 12 of the clock 14. A person attempting to remove the clock 14 from a wall will, of course, be viewing the clock 14 from the front face of the clock 14 opposite the back face 12 and, therefore, will not be able to see the route the projection 38 is taking through the top maze lock hanger 10. Only a user who has knowledge of the top maze lock hanger 10, its slot 18, and first and second slot branches 30 and 32 will be able to intentionally remove the projection 38 through the proper removal path 50 to remove the clock 14 from the wall.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claim language used in Claim 2 finds clear support in the description and is not new matter, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections to Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 132(a).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 1-6, 19-31, and 34-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,190,221 (“Updike”). Claims 7, 32, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Updike. As mentioned above, Claims 30, 36, and 42 have been canceled.

Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 1 and Dependent Claims 2-4 and 31-36

Independent Claim 1 defines a hanger for supporting a device, the hanger comprising a housing having a face positioned substantially vertically, a nonlinear slot cut into the face, the slot having a first end and a second end, the first end being closed and the second end being opened, and slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends.

Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a slot having a first end and a second end and slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends. Rather, the bracket 510 of Updike includes a channel 530 extending through the bracket 510 and having a continuous path between an open end or hole and a closed end 538. With particular reference to Fig. 5 of Updike and to the Examiner’s reference labels added to Fig. 5 of Updike in the present Office action, Applicants note that the Examiner has identified a “first end” and a “second end” of the channel 530 but has not identified “slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends.”

Applicants also note that the embodiment shown in Fig. 4 of Updike does not include a nonlinear slot cut into the face, the slot having a first end and a second end, the first end being closed and the second end being opened. Rather, the channel 430 includes closed ends 434, 438, and 444. For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-4 and 31-36 depend from independent Claim 1 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Claims 32 and 33 ultimately depend from independent Claim 1 and are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

As discussed above, Updike does not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by independent Claim 1. Therefore, assuming *arguendo* that “it would have been obvious to a

person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the third, closed end, and [that]... the locking path extends between the first, closed end and the third, closed end, of Fig. 4, as taught by Updike, to the housing assembly of Fig. 1, as taught by Updike, in order to further confuse an unauthorized person attempting to remove an object attached with the hanger”, Applicants respectfully point out that the claimed structure is not provided by the prior art reference. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness of Claims 32 and 33 based upon the prior art as required by 35 U.S.C. § 103.

For these and other reasons, Johansson does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of Claims 32 and 33. Accordingly, Claims 32 and 33 are allowable.

Independent Claim 5

Independent Claim 5 defines a hanger for supporting a device, the hanger comprising a face lying in a substantially vertical plane positioned substantially vertically and at least partially defining a receiving area, a substantially vertical slot cut into the face, the slot having a first end and a second end, the first end being closed and the second end opening into the receiving area, and at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle and having a closed end, the at least one slot branch having a substantially constant width that is substantially the same as the width of the slot.

Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a face lying in a substantially vertical plane positioned substantially vertically and at least partially defining a receiving area. Rather, the area of the bracket 510 of Updike identified by the Examiner as “a receiving area” in the Office action dated October 19, 2005 is located in a different plane than and behind the face plate 518 of Updike. In addition, Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including a substantially vertical slot cut into the face and at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle. Rather, the bracket 510 of Updike includes a channel 530 extending through the bracket 510 and having a continuous path between an open end or hole and a closed end 538. With particular reference to Fig. 5 of Updike and to the Examiner’s reference labels added to Fig. 5 of Updike in the present Office action, Applicants note that the Examiner has identified a “first end” and a “second end” of the channel 530 but has

not identified “at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle”.

Applicants also note that the embodiment shown in Fig. 4 of Updike does not include at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle and having a closed end. Rather, upper and lower ends of the branch 444 define portions that are substantially perpendicular to the main channel 430 defined between 434 and 438. Similarly, if the “main channel” is considered to extend between 434 and either end of the channel 444, the paths defined by the other end of the channel 444 and 438 diverge from this “main channel” at an angle of greater than 90 degrees.

For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 5. Accordingly, independent Claim 5 is allowable.

Independent Claim 6 and Dependent Claims 7-13

Independent Claim 6 defines an electronic device for mounting on a substantially vertical surface, the electronic device comprising a front face, the front face including a display, a back face opposite the front face, the back face lying in a substantially vertical plane, and a top hanger formed on the back face, the top hanger including a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area, the top slot having a substantially constant width and a first, closed end and a second, opened end, the second end opening into the top receiving area which is at least twice as wide as the top slot.

Updike does not teach or suggest an electronic device including, among other things, a front face, the front face including a display. Rather, Updike discloses a mounting bracket for “attachment of a movable object such as a mirror or picture to a stationery wall”. Column 1, lines 10-11. Updike also does not teach or suggest a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area and a top slot having a substantially constant width and a second, opened end opening into the top receiving area which is at least twice as wide as the top slot. Rather, the area of the bracket 510 of Updike identified by the Examiner as “a receiving area” in the Office action dated October 19, 2005 is located in a different plane than and behind the face plate 518 of Updike.

Applicants also note that the embodiment shown in Fig. 4 of Updike does not include a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area, the top slot having a substantially constant width and a first, closed end and a second, opened end, the second end opening into the top receiving area which is at least twice as wide as the top slot. Rather, the channel 430 of Updike includes closed ends 434, 438, and 444.

For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 6. Accordingly, independent Claim 6 is allowable. Claims 7-13 depend from independent Claim 6 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Claim 7 ultimately depends from independent Claim 6 and is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 6.

As discussed above, Updike does not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by independent Claim 6. Therefore, assuming *arguendo* that “it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add an additional hanger to the bottom hanger, as taught by Applicant, to the back face and spaced apart from the top hanger, in order to provide a stronger securing mounting system for the device [and that]... since the bottom hanger is identical to the top hanger, the bottom hanger will include identical elements as that of the top hanger”, Applicants respectfully point out that the claimed structure is not provided by the prior art reference. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness of Claim 7 based upon the prior art as required by 35 U.S.C. § 103.

For these and other reasons, Johansson does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of Claim 7. Accordingly, Claim 7 is allowable.

Independent Claim 19 and Dependent Claims 20-30

Independent Claim 19 defines a hanger for supporting a device on a projection extending outwardly from a wall, the hanger comprising a housing having a hanger face, the hanger face defining a substantially planar hanger face surface, and a nonlinear slot extending into the hanger face and lying in the planar hanger face surface and being engageable with the projection to secure the device to the wall, the slot defining an entry path for the projection, an exit path for

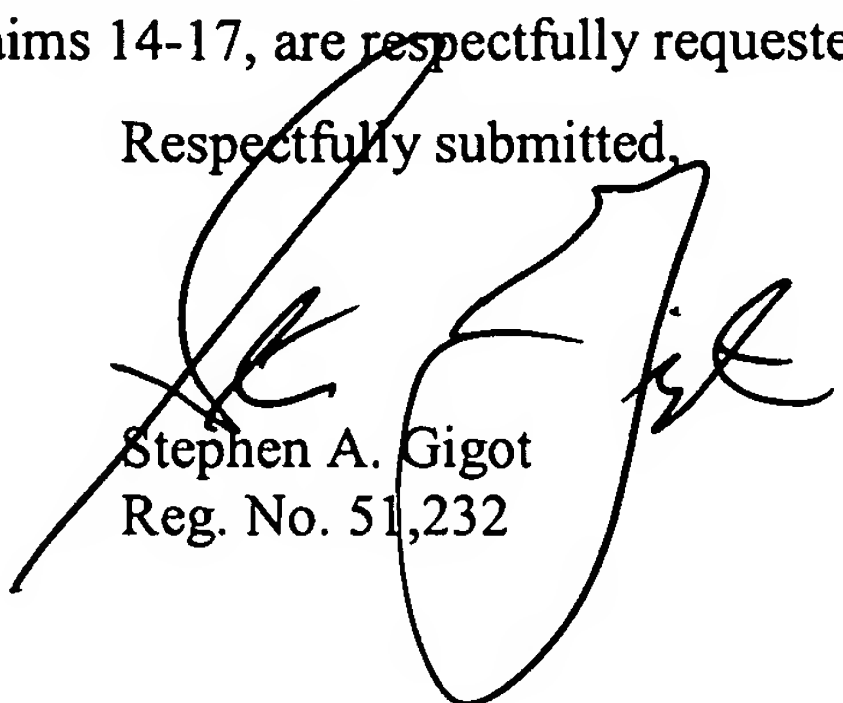
the projection, and at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path.

Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a nonlinear slot extending into the hanger face and defining an entry path for the projection, an exit path for the projection, and at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path. Rather, the bracket 510 of Updike includes a channel 530 extending through the bracket 510 and having a continuous path between an open end or hole and a closed end 538. With particular reference to Fig. 5 of Updike and to the Examiner's reference labels added to Fig. 5 of Updike in the present Office action, Applicants note that the Examiner has identified a "first end" and a "second end" of the channel 530 but has not identified "at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path." For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 19. Accordingly, independent Claim 19 is allowable. Claims 20-30 depend from independent Claim 19 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 1-13 and 19-42, in addition to the previous allowance of Claims 14-17, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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